

QUINNIPIACK VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
North Haven, CT
February 28, 2008
4:30 p.m.

Attendance: A. McClure; D. Cofrancesco; J. Donaldson; L. DeNegre; S. Faris; B. Scott; C. Goldberg; V. Masi; P. Marone; A. Sofair; L. Balch, ex officio; D. Culligan, staff; J. Silvestri, staff.

Not in Attendance: J. Thorpe; T. Gersdorf; M. Rochow; L. Haddad; A. Levison

President A. McClure called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and declared a quorum present. She raised three issues:

1. The low efficiency of the flu shot.
2. The lead in pottery glaze.
3. Funds available to private homeowners for lead remediation.

L. Balch responded: 1. Dr. Sofair responded later in the meeting, explaining the “matching” issue from year to year. 2. Lead in pottery glaze is an ongoing issue. Many potters now use lead free glazes, and for food or beverage use (especially acidic) lead-free is recommended. D. Culligan brought up health issues from lead risks for potters from fumes and dust while making the items. 3. Funds for remediation go very quickly. Certain criteria must be met to obtain these funds. Towns in our district are not targeted for these grants; however, QVHD has been able to refer to programs with these funds in the past.

Minutes: A **motion** to approve the January, 2008 minutes was made by C. Goldberg, **seconded** by V. Masi and **unanimously** approved.

Financial Report:

L. Balch reported that the budget is on target (58%) when adjusted for seasonal collections. Revenue collected is at 70%, expenses are at 62%. These percents should even out. Building maintenance is high due to the roof; office supplies are also high. Future expenditures in these categories will be monitored and decreased where possible. A **motion** to accept the financial report and place it on file was made by D. Cofrancesco, **seconded** by S. Faris and accepted **unanimously**.

There were no Committee Reports this month. A Personnel Committee meeting will be scheduled prior to the March Board meeting. A Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled prior to the April Board meeting. Budget Hearing will be scheduled and announced for the April meeting.

Administrative Reports:

Health Education Report by D. Culligan:

- The fact sheet regarding Manure Storage and Public Health has been corrected, per information provided by Dr. DeNegre.
- Q-vhd Tips Family Health Letter (Winter 2008, Vol. 21, Issue 1) has been distributed to schools in the district. A copy was provided to the board members.
- A meeting was held at QVHD with the District Animal Control Officers (ACOs.) regarding Rabies Control. D. Culligan noted that most of the current ACOs are new, so this was an opportunity to get to know each other and discuss rabies testing and notification protocols.
- Mom's Clinic, The School Based Health Center at Hamden High, is still looking for an APRN to replace C. Federici. She is continuing to provide care one day a week.
- The QVHD Annual Report is in process, pending the financial report.
- QVHD will be presenting Nutrition and Foods for Healthy Eating at the Hamden skating rink for the Youth Services “Friday Night Skating Program”.

Directors Report by L.Balch:

- QVHD has had the opportunity to monitor usage of the Bethany public health activity during the time period that L. Warner was on unpaid leave of absences (LOA). Land development related activity numbers are low. In addition, it was noted that not all policies/procedures have been fully adopted in the Bethany office. QVHD will continue to monitor Bethany public health activity and needs. L. Warner is scheduled to return Monday, 03/03/08.
- QVHD was asked to comment on the growing beaver populations at the Bethany Lake. There are no public health concerns at this time. The water continues to flow and the swimming area is routinely monitored during the swimming season for indicator bacteria, which would detect any sanitation issues, regardless of cause. C. Goldberg reported that the Town has developed a plan to decrease tree destruction without disrupting the natural beaver habitat.
- There is no update regarding the ball field in Bethany but QVHD has been informed that the opening of spring baseball season (Mid-April) is being considered in the time-line.
- Water sampling in the Bethany school for lead/copper has been acceptable since the zinc orthophosphate treatment. State mandated water sampling continues. The peak efficiency of this corrosion control method is usually seen at 6 months and no problems have been reported.
- The issue regarding the disposal of animal (specifically dog) carcasses in the Hamden transfer station was discussed. L. Balch reported that there are at least five different agencies, representing 2 levels of government involved in regulatory activities for this situation: DEP (Dept. of Environmental Protection) for allowed activities and permitting at the transfer station; Hamden Town Government and the Hamden police as transfer station operator and ACO employer; QVHD, under the Keeping of Animals section of the Public Health Code; and DAG (Dept. of Agriculture) as regulator of the ACO activity. In summarizing the incident, there is no evidence to suggest human health was at risk; the practice has ceased and L. Balch is focusing on preventing future incidents through better coordination and communication when policy changes are considered.
- R. Masi requested the results of the North Haven Middle School test that was done the week of December 17th. L. Balch to ascertain and report back.
- A meeting took place at QVHD on Tuesday, February 26, with the CDC, State and Region 2 Emergency Preparedness (EP) group to review the QVHD emergency mass distribution plan, referred to as a Technical Assistance Review (TAR). L. Balch hopes to use the follow-up report as guidance for further emergency distribution plan development.
- There have been food recalls for Progresso Italian Wedding Soup containing the previously recalled beef. QVHD notified appropriate parties about this recall. Suggestion was made to post recalls on QVHD web-site. L. Balch will consider posting a link to FDA site or State DPH notices of recall.
- MRSA- L. Balch presented a workshop on MRSA to the Waterbury Chamber of Commerce, Health Care Council as a follow-up to the New Haven session.
- QVHD now has two radios for emergency communications and staff are being orientated to their use.

Motion to adjourn was made by S. Faris, **seconded** by B.Scott and voted **unanimously**.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

The next QVHD Board meeting will be held on March 27, 2008 at 4:30 p.m. at the QVHD office.

Minutes prepared by:
J.Silvestri
QVHD Staff